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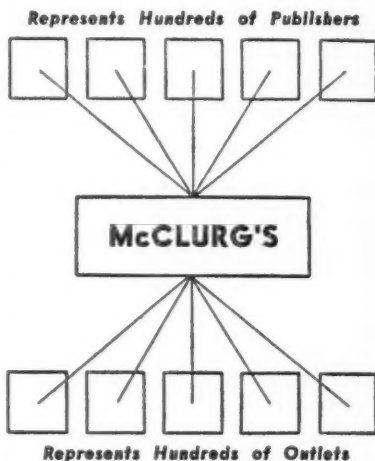
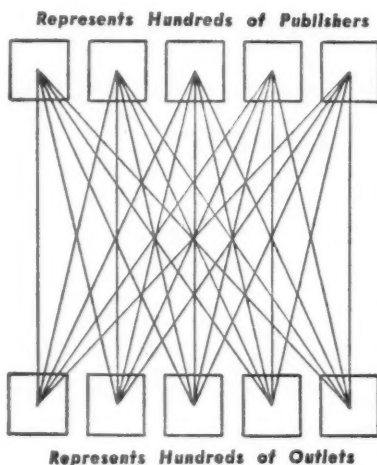
*Complete
Past President's Convention Report*

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VOLUME 18
NUMBER 4

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THE MICHIGAN LIBRARIAN

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE MICHIGAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

DECEMBER
1952

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NUMBER 3

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From The President

Let us start the year of 1953 with a long, hard look at the Michigan Library Association as it is seen by your Executive Board. As we look at M.L.A. we see a strong and democratic association cumulative in its development. At all times, these cumulative processes carry on; state aid and Interim Study (our legislative branch), state planning, recruiting, membership, publications and public relations, salary, staff and tenure and scholarship, all are continuing processes which effect every library situation or lack of one, in every community in this state.

Mrs. Mary Daume, Mrs. Dorothy Hagerman, Miss Jean Johnson, Miss Elizabeth McPhail, Mr. Hobart Coffey, Miss Eudocia Stratton and Mrs. Grace Burgett with their committee members have been and are working hard toward a concerted and coordinated plan of building an unbeatable library program in Michigan.

Mr. Robert Orr's report to the Association at the conference was excellent (you can read it in this issue) and will lay the groundwork for many of the plans Executive Board desires to make effective during the next year.

At the top of our many problems is Finance. As you will learn in Mr. Orr's report, financially your Association is not strong and not at all cumulative. Blind alleys of inflation beset us. However, a strong committee in the practical hand of Miss Marian Young is making a thorough study of this situation. Every member will be called upon to help her clear the way. If not with money, why not through service—typing, mimeographing!

Also on our 1953 agenda is Intellectual Freedom which you will hear more about later. Plans are going forward now to study and discuss this undefined issue at the spring district meetings.

Federal Relations is part of our agenda, too. However, for it to be effective, funds are much needed. Down the line of recommendations from each standing and special committee, come two pleas . . . more funds—more active members.

At the Advisory Council meeting to be held early in January, all your representatives will come together for a one day workshop. State Board for Libraries, Michigan State Library, entire executive board, district co-chairmen, section chairmen, members-at-large, and ALA Councilors will be present. From this workshop evolves the program for the year ahead.

Trustees, district co-chairmen and section chairmen have asked what can be done to establish a closer, more concrete contact between all the units of the Association. Why so many delays? Our outgoing executive board often has considered this annoying situation. It made this decision. Many state organizations of lesser numbers and less impetus have turned to a full-time executive secretary. The finances of our Association do not permit such an expedient at this time. But as a step toward such a forward looking possibility, at its final meeting the 1952 board decided to combine the duties of a part-time executive secretary with those of editor of the *Michigan Librarian*.

Our organization has been fortunate in choosing Mrs. Evelyn Tintera for that position for the coming year. We are confident she will be successful. We wish you well, Mrs. Tintera and give you our unified support.

Looming before us is the State Aid problem—possibly in its most critical position. Also we must enlarge our membership rolls—why not a clerical-aid section? A high school assistants' group? There must be many other groups affiliated through business who will gain a better understanding of problems common to all of us.

Every member is important to this organization. Every library, every librarian, every library governor and friend builds this Association. All of us are one unit working together for the purpose of achieving one common goal—increased and better library service to more people in Michigan. With your help, Executive Board will try to put into action the recommendations made by you for the year, 1953.

A personal note: your incoming president asked for volunteers for committees and for suggestions for our plans of work. The response far exceeded expectations. May she thank each and everyone of you here and now.

Frances E. Burnside

The Michigan Librarian

Keyhole Peek At The Conference

*John G. Lorenz, Chairman
Program Planning Committee
1952 MLA Conference*

From every section of Michigan, librarians, trustees and friends of libraries registered for the 1952 M.L.A. Conference at the Hotel Olds, Lansing, November 5-8. The conference was planned to achieve more participation by those attending, and this was the compliment most often heard. The positive reaction of the conferees to participation can well be taken as a cue by future conference planners.

A feature of the conference was the workshop on "Libraries and Non-Book Materials" and the daily film showings which were planned to meet the interests of all the sections of M.L.A. The large attendance at these sessions indicated the success of this experiment. Kurtz Myers of the Detroit Public Library can take a bow for organizing and carrying out this program so well.

The pre-conference Institute on Adult Education and the Book Fair Kaffee Klatsch were other innovations which added to the interest of the conference. These are reported on more fully elsewhere in this issue. Also for the first time, the Trustee Section planned and carried out one of the general session programs.

As for the exhibitors, they really turned out for the conference, twenty-eight in all, and the exhibits seemed to be more attractive than ever.

The local committees handled the conference details efficiently, even to getting a fresh boutonniere to President Robert M. Orr each day. The local committee was helped by the cooperation and good grace with which the conferees accepted the few snafus which inevitably occur at every conference.

Few people took advantage of the organized tours, probably because the free period on

Friday became shorter and shorter. It may be that general free periods should not be planned at all so individuals could plan them according to their own programs and interests.

President Orr did a fine job of accepting the Association's first gavel from the donor, Alice Louise LeFevre, and he handled it with great aplomb and effectiveness, not to say noise. He had a bad moment at the banquet when he couldn't find the gavel to turn over to the new President, Frances Burnside. Little did he suspect that Norman Cousins was the practical joker who had hidden it under his chair.

Frances Burnside was given the gavel finally and did herself proud in keeping the final business session rolling on Saturday, even though she took time out to have her picture taken by the press.

The informal spirit and friendliness of the conference really flowered at the reception and social evening. The punch was just right, and Harold Newman did his usual fine square dance calling. Some danced, some watched but all seemed to enjoy it.

The conference closed officially with a luncheon and business meeting of the old and new executive board members, and old and new committee and section chairmen. The in-coming convention of Shriners was making quite a racket putting up its tents in the lobby. Nevertheless there was some good carry over of experience at this meeting, and the ground work was laid for the coming year's Association program. It should be a good one.

See you at the Spring district meetings and certainly at the next conference in Grand Rapids.

**Total Number
Registered at Conference
503**

1952 President's Report

Past President Robert M. Orr
MLA Conference, Lansing, Nov. 5, 1952

I have been asked this morning to give you a report on my year as President. It has been a most interesting one for me from every standpoint. In addition to the many and varied activities in which your Association has been engaged this past year, I have become the father of a big, handsome boy; opened a new Branch Library building; have a new Central Library building almost ready to open; and have lost over twenty pounds; a record I submit as being fairly unique.

It is customary for the retiring President to congratulate the Association on having survived his term—I certainly do! However, I would like to share a few observations with you, based upon M.L.A.'s past year, taking a careful look at the plus and minus sides of the ledger.

In evaluating the past year, I must confess that there is a temptation to "point with pride and view with alarm" which I will try to minimize. The following is strictly personal and does not necessarily represent the thinking of the Executive Board.

Negative Side

On the negative side, your Association is as close to bankruptcy as it should ever be. During the past year, the Association has spent \$1,500 more than was received, primarily due to the extensive activities engaged in, such as the Planning Committee's work on the Survey, the Interim Study Committee, the special district meetings, and so on. It has been the feeling of the Executive Board that all of these programs were "musts".

Next has been the widespread tendency toward division in the Association. More and more, it has been brought home to me how important it is to unify the Association rather than divide it into many groups working informally together.

It seems to me that there is a crying need for more coordination between the Executive Board, the Districts, the Sections and the Committees, a coordination which has been very difficult to achieve.

Continuing the negative side, M.L.A. needs a much wider and broader membership for both librarians and trustees. It is my understanding that we could more than

double our membership in librarians alone. The Association needs not only the financial support of these people but the increased strength and prestige which would accompany the larger membership.

One of the most jolting experiences which I encountered repeatedly, was the widespread misunderstanding of the functions of the Michigan Library Association, the Michigan State Library, and State Board for Librarians. At several district meetings, especially, there was a wide-spread belief that the meetings had been sponsored and financed by the State Library.

Last of the negative items is the need for trustees to take a more active part in Association affairs, as well as achieve better trustee organization and coordination.

Positive Side

Now the positive side of the picture. As of today, M.L.A. has 1,267 paid-up members for 1952, including 222 trustee members. The latter represents a substantial increase over a year ago.

During the past year, there has been widespread participation in the M.L.A. program by an active membership. I have been impressed repeatedly by the fact that our Association is rich in the number of top-flight leaders that are taking an active part in its affairs. Certainly, I believe that M.L.A. has provided vigorous leadership for the library profession in Michigan. After two years of study and preparation, action has been taken on the Library Survey. As you all know, special district meetings were held this fall to study the weaknesses and possible revisions of the present State Aid Law. Further, a reading resources survey is now under way under the Committee on Relations with Publishers.

One of the strongest factors in M.L.A.'s leadership, I believe, has been the democratic referral of professional problems to the membership itself. We have had excellent examples during the past year when certification and state aid revision were being considered. Both were taken to the membership at large through district meetings, and through the *Michigan Librarian*.

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The development of trustee activity has also been noteworthy. Mrs. Franklin M. Reck, Trustee Member-at-Large, and Mrs. Clarence Hilberry, Chairman of the Trustee Section, deserve special credit for the strengthening of trustee activities during the past year.

Challenge of Tomorrow

What of the future? A few recommendations which I would like to pass on to the Association:

1. M.L.A. is *your* organization. It *works* for us, speaks for us. Let's put it on its feet financially!

2. A full-time Executive Secretary is needed. Let's see that this is taken care of soon.

3. We need more active trustee *participation!* Let's all of us bring *our* trustees into M.L.A., and see that they have an opportunity to take an active part.

4. The best way to completely nullify M.L.A.'s strength is to divide it up into groups with the trustees, catalogers, Upper Peninsula, districts, reference section, county librarian's section, and so on, all working solely toward their own ends. Only by keeping M.L.A. the strongest State Association in the country can the sections and districts that make up M.L.A. achieve their greatest strength. Let's all work *first* for M.L.A. to achieve our common goal, the best possible library service for *all* the State.

We are moving forward. During the past year, M.L.A. has contributed toward an improved certification program; with the help of the Fyran money and excellent work by the Planning Committee, progress is being made

toward a State-wide strengthening of libraries; based upon the recent district meetings, the Association will work toward improving and strengthening State Aid; a strong Committee on Intellectual Freedom has been appointed, under Miss Ruth Warncke, that will stand ready to help wherever and whenever necessary; M.L.A.'s Executive Board is working closely with the State Board for Libraries and the Michigan State Library to actively promote libraries.

Summing up, as the Michigan Library Association completes its 61st year, we can take pride, I believe, in our organization and the things it represents. The Association, its officers, committees, sections, and districts represent *you!* I urge you to take an active part—attend the business meetings Friday and Saturday morning and speak up—make your influence felt. Let Miss Burnside know what committees you would like to serve on. She would appreciate it.

From the bottom of my heart, I would like to express my appreciation to all those in the Association who have given me such excellent support during the past year—to the Executive Board, the Committees, Sections, Districts and the entire membership.

In closing, the experience this past year as your President has meant much to me—certainly it has been a most reassuring one to work with our members in every part of the State—you have indeed made me proud to be a *librarian*, and, most especially, a *Michigan Librarian*.

Thank you.

Roll of the Librarian In Adult Education

Summary of Malcolm Knowles address
by John G. Lorenz, Michigan State Library

(Editor's Note: Mr. Knowles regreted he had no written speech but kindly gave the **Michigan Librarian** permission to do a summary)

Malcolm Knowles, Administration Coordinator, Adult Education Association, had some stimulating ideas to present in his talk to the first general session of the conference on "The Role of the Librarian in Adult Education."

He introduced an effective technique at the beginning of his talk to keep the group alert and to insure good discussion after he had finished. He divided the audience into

four groups, each to be listening for omissions, corrections, ways to implement or ways to clarify his remarks. A technique that worked very well. Mr. Knowles address had two main divisions. First, Mr. Knowles described the recent trends in adult education toward:

1. Greater involvement of people in their natural surroundings rather than in classrooms.

2. More people participating in programs, but smaller-sized groups.
3. Transfer of content from stress on knowledge to stress on problem-solving, better attitudes and improved methods.
4. Revitalizing of democracy through leadership training.
5. More analysis of adult behavior and learning.
6. Increased informality and more evaluation in learning.
7. Development of more joint programs involving collaboration of several community agencies.

Secondly, he saw the role of the librarian and the library as:

1. Resource center for materials and information.
2. Referral agency to other sources of materials and information.
3. Source of positive guidance and consultant to groups in using resources.
4. Stimulator in use of best materials.
5. Discoverer of gaps in learning areas and a positive force toward eliminating those gaps.

Interesting questions were raised as to whether the library should be a group work agency and whether it should use the medium of paid advertising to bring its message to the community.

Book Fair Kaffee Klatsch *November 6, 1952*

*Ruth Warncke, Chairman
Committee on Relations with Publishers*

"We give book fairs to provide a means for showing our community new books, and for interesting people in the library."

"Frankly, we want to advertise our wares and make money."

"We want to give our teachers an opportunity to see and evaluate the new books we purchase for the school library."

And with these comments, the panel was on its way. Mrs. Majel Reed, librarian of Belding Public Library, Mrs. Millie Helms of Zimmers Engraving Company, Grand Rapids, and Mrs. Alyce Ludwig, Director of Libraries for the East Lansing Schools, discussed their experiences in giving book fairs. They and the 160 people in the audience had been inspired by the address of Mrs. Ruth Gagliardo, Director, Traveling Exhibits and Book Review Editor, Kansas State Teachers Association, who had told of her work in exhibiting books throughout Kansas, and of the genuine response of the people in areas where no books had previously been available.

Book Fair Publicity

Mrs. Gagliardo and the panel members agreed that the books to be exhibited had to be selected carefully with the needs and tastes of each community in mind. They were convinced that direct approach in person or by letter to groups and individuals was the best method of publicity, and Mrs. Helms and Mrs. Gagliardo had had successful experiences

with posters made by children. Book talks and stories at the Fair were considered an essential. All agreed that space and lack of sufficient help to do the tremendous amount of work were the biggest problems. Each one has dreamed of the possibilities of attracting more adults to the Fair, preferably with their children. All agreed that it is the children who encourage the adults to attend. Disagreement came on the subject of using members of community groups to help with the planning and the execution of the Fair. The panel members had all done their fairs individually, except Mrs. Helms who had tried both ways, and found that it was easier to handle a fair through one organization. Mrs. Gagliardo regarded cooperation with community groups as an essential if the objective of interesting the community in the need for books was to be accomplished.

Planning A Fair

After the coffee and rolls had been served, the group sitting at each of the 30 tables put their heads together and planned a fair for the community represented by their leader. Out of this came a suggestion for holding the fair in Book Week with Christmas buying as an incentive. One group suggested that the library turn the sponsorship of the fair over to some group such as the local chapter of the American Association of University Women, or a mothers club, who could handle the

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commercial details and make the profit for a cause of their choosing. The library could supply the place and the skills of the staff in return for the opportunity to do a community service and to get publicity.

Problems arose in connection with the book supply. It was agreed that no library could work with only one retail dealer if there were more in the community. It was suggested that the library forego a money profit, and ask the dealers to lend books for display, giving each visitor to the fair a card with the names and addresses of all the dealers in the community. The possibility of losing and damaging books was considered. The question was raised as to the value of holding the fair if space and time are so limited that school children have to be hustled by with no opportunity to examine the books. Suggestions for taking collections of books to rooms, of dividing books into interest and reading level groups, and of extending the total time of the fair were offered.

Book Reps Air Opinions

Representatives of book concerns, some of whom had helped in planning the Kaffee Klatsch, were present and contributed some helpful and challenging ideas. Mr. David Busse of A. C. McClurg explained that his firm could not participate in book fairs for two reasons. One is that they cannot compete with local book dealers who are also their customers. Another is that book fairs are an advertising device for a dealer, and cost him money. McClurg spends advertising and service funds in sending informed salesmen into an area, providing book information, and sending exhibits and representatives to meetings such as MLA, which depend on exhibitors fees.

Record Day for Trustees

Three important meetings on November 6, 1952 made the Sixty-first Michigan Library Association Conference outstanding in Trustees Section history. At an executive board meeting in the morning, five of the seven districts were represented (I, II, III, IV, VII). The annual meeting in the afternoon with forty-four present was attended by members from every district. At the evening Second General Session with several hundred librarians and trustees present, Mrs. C. B.

Mr. William H. Smith of Doubleday warned librarians against certain pitfalls in planning a fair. He suggested not only a careful consideration of the amount of discount a dealer offers, but also of some other factors. Is postage paid one way, both ways, or not at all? Are all books not sold returnable? If not, what is the definition of soiled and worn books?

Summing Up

Mrs. Gagliardo in summing up the meeting urged that a clear distinction be made between the idea of a book fair which is designed to let people see and examine books, and a book sale. She pointed out that a sale is justifiable when the people of the community have no other source for buying books, but that the major objectives must not be lost in an effort to increase sales.

The question of cooperating with community groups met Mrs. Gagliardo's full approval. Again she urged that the objective be kept in mind, and that possible complications and irritations be weighed against the amount of community interest which such cooperation arouses. She closed with a pocket guide for book fairs. "Ask yourself," Mrs. Gagliardo said, "where are we? Where do we want to go? What shall we do to get there?"

The Kaffee Klatsch was designed by the Committee on Relations with Publishers in Cooperation with a group of bookmen to explore rather than to promote the idea of book fairs. The exploration was accomplished successfully if the discussion was an indication, and the fellowship and coffee were thoroughly enjoyed.

(Report On Trustees Conference Activities)

*Mrs. Franklin M. Reck, Member-at-Large
Trustees Group*

Hilberry, chairman of the Trustees Section, introduced Mr. Thomas McKaig of New York who climaxed the recent discussions of State Aid with the story of the New York program.

The executive board studied the new manual of instructions for District Chairmen and listened to reports of district meetings from Mr. Robert Orr and Mrs. Loleta D. Fyan.

Following the report of officers and committee chairmen, the annual meeting was given reports of the Legislative and the Interim Study committees by Mrs. Mary Daume. (See these reports in full).

Section Officers Elected

Officers for the Trustees section were elected:

Mrs. Clarence B. Hilberry, Ferndale, chairman, 1 year remaining in term.

Mrs. M. A. Waldo, Lansing, 1st vice-chairman, 1 year.

Mr. William Cummings, Sault Ste. Marie, vice-chairman from the Upper Peninsula, 1 year.

Mrs. Franklin M. Reck, Manchester, 2 year term.

A tribute to Miss Marion Packard was given by Mrs. John Lambie (Birmingham) the first chairman of the Trustees Section.

"Friends of the Library, Why and How" was the topic outlined for discussion by Miss Jeanne Lloyd (librarian, Birmingham). This group of course is supplementary to the library trustees and is especially useful from a public relations standpoint. Friends of the Library Manual from A.L.A. gives excellent plans and help in formulating a group.

Miss Frances Burnside spoke on the need for coordination of efforts and voluntary service on part of the trustee.

Complete:

So that you may realize that what we have accomplished in New York State is not the work of supermen, but rather the result of good sound trustee organization, I want to give you a little of the background of ordinary library trustees.

While I was serving on the library board in my home town of Hamburg—population 6,000, located 15 miles south of Buffalo, we heard rumors that the Board of Supervisors—the 54 man governing board of the county, was considering the organization of an Erie County Library. We knew that such a movement must involve our little library and we wanted to know about it. Properly handled it could do much for us—politically mishandled it could do much to upset its usefulness. We decided to talk to other library trustees

Minor changes for the trustees section By-laws were discussed and will be sent to all trustees with the minutes of the annual meeting later in the year.

At the Second General Session on Thursday night, Mr. McKaig, Trustees Section chairman for ALA, presented the "Story of State Aid in New York" which can be found elsewhere in this issue. Following his talk a lively discussion followed with a panel of trustees and librarians led by Miss Ruth Warncke of Kent County Library. Those on the panel were Mr. William Cummings, Sault Ste. Marie; Mrs. Mary Daume, Monroe County; Mrs. Loleta D. Fyan, State Librarian; Mrs. George Graybeil, Kent County; and Mrs. Martin Mix, Highland Park McGregor Library. The importance of the trustees position was emphasized. Knowing your own library and a willingness to confer with other similar and neighboring groups in order to better library service in your area were especially stressed. It was pointed out that New York State had a majority of business men as trustees and that they attend local, district and state meeting, making it a point to see that the public and legislature were familiar with their problems.

All in all, the Trustees Day at the Conference was an inspiration to everyone present and a record day for trustees.

The Story Of State Aid In New York

Thomas H. McKaig, Chairman
Trustees Section, ALA

about it and invited the members of the 22 library boards of Erie County to meet at Hamburg to discuss its implications. Out of this meeting grew the Erie County Library Association—an organization unique in that it was an association of trustees rather than librarians.

At that time the County Library Proposal died a natural death in the Board of Supervisors, but our Trustee Association continued its existence and proved to be a most useful organization for furtherance of good library service. We found that regardless of the size of the library, whether it operated on a budget of \$250 or \$25,000, our problems were much alike. Moreover our town and village library trustees were of much the same caliber. They were not politicians but they were generally

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respected members of the community whose word bore weight with the local politicians, whether in the little community or the larger. Through comparison of methods and financial statistics, we learned much, and of our own accord we discussed the establishment of a county library. We in Hamburg were particularly fortunate in having among our citizens a young woman who was thoroughly familiar with county libraries having been a librarian in the Cuyahogo County library at Cleveland during the first nine years of its existence. From her we learned what a county library could be—learned of the pitfalls to avoid as a result of Cleveland's experience. Through the Erie County Library Association we passed on our findings, and our various members started to talk to their respective town supervisors about a County Library.

County Library Becomes Reality

Merely as an aside from the main topic of my remarks, the Erie County Public Library became a reality in 1947—partly through the efforts of the trustees organization, but primarily for political expediency. The City of Buffalo was broke, taxed to the tax limit, bonded to the bonded indebtedness limit, while the county was in healthy financial condition. To help bail out the city, certain functions of government were transferred from the city to the county government, the first of them being the library set-up. I will not burden you with the type of set-up we have, but I will say that the libraries of Erie County, including Buffalo, which in 1947 operated on a budget of about \$800,000 have a budget request in for next year—and we know that it will be approved with minor changes—in the amount of almost \$1,900,000. From \$800,000 to \$1,900,000 in five years time! And what is more to the point our bi-partisan library board is fairly confident that the vote for approval will be 54 to 0. We have succeeded in taking the library out of partisan politics. You will note that I said bi-partisan board and not non-partisan. What I wish to imply is that the library is definitely in politics, and successfully so in both major parties.

Trustees In The N.Y.L.A.

Even before the Erie County library was established, the Erie County Trustees' Association began to attract statewide attention in library circles, and some of us were drawn into the work of the New York Library Association. In 1946 the N.Y.L.A. was a strong organization of librarians, but had a hopelessly weak trustees' section. Among this

small trustee group however, were such stalwarts as Tony Cerrato and Harold Bailly, both of whom have since won A.L.A. trustee citations. At the 1946 convention, at Saratoga Springs, the question of improved state aid for libraries was again brought up, as it was from year to year, and again the Legislative Committee suggested that this was an inopportune time for the introduction of any such legislation. New York, the wealthiest state in the union, returned a paltry \$72,000 to the local libraries in state aid. As I recall it at that time Michigan was getting about \$350,000 in state aid.

The Legislative Committee's report, that this was an inopportune time, immediately brought forth plenty of comment from several of the trustees, and the outcome to all practical purposes was a polite suggestion from the librarians, "if you trustees think you can do better than us—you take over." So far as the trustee organization was concerned, this was the best thing that could happen. They now had a real job of their own to do and they took over, with the assistance, of course, of the librarians, but the trustees from here on were the front in the State Aid program. We began to build up our political contacts in both parties on the statewide basis.

Educational Lobbying

On short notice, we put together a bill for Emergency State Aid for Libraries for introduction at the January 1947 legislative session. It wasn't a good bill and it was probably well that it died in committee. Nevertheless, through educational lobbying, we made many friends for the libraries in high places and we were particularly fortunate the following year in obtaining the advice and support of the State Comptroller, one of Governor Dewey's right hand men. Incidentally his wife was for years a library trustee. He advised us the following year to change the nature of our bill, but to keep on plugging in the same gentlemanly manner. The 1948 bill was again lost in committee—the victim of an economy block in the state legislature.

In 1949, we reintroduced the 1948 bill and again it was lost in committee, but immediately following the 1949 session, at our request, Governor Dewey appointed a committee of library trustees, librarians and state officials, primarily from fiscal branches, to investigate the financial needs of the libraries and make recommendations. This 15 member committee brought in a report in the fall of 1949 on the basis of which a State Aid Bill

was written for the 1950 legislature. To completely divorce our lobbying activities from the librarians who might be accused of promoting the bill for selfish reasons, we organized the Library Trustees Foundation of New York, a separate corporation, and employed a professional, full time executive. May I read you Governor Dewey's comment when he attached his signature making the bill a law?

"This bill is the result of hundreds of hours of work and conference by a committee which I appointed last May to explore the state's library needs. Its provisions are supported by the carefully prepared report which this committee submitted to me during the legislative session and which I forwarded to the members of the Legislature. The bill was adopted by both Houses of the Legislature without a single dissenting vote and it is a matter of deep personal gratification to me to complete its enactment into law today.

Those who have advocated the cause of libraries have been among the finest of the citizen groups to plead a cause during my administration. Never once did they seek to evade a request for information. Never once did they urge a selfish reason for State action."

The nature of the bill is probably of secondary importance to you, but I may state that it placed a goodly premium on the organization of county and multi-county libraries, to the extent that it raised our state aid from \$72,000 a year to a potential \$3,500,000. Our present state aid for Erie County is just over \$200,000.

High Treason?

Now for the other phase of my remarks—the relationship of your Trustees' Section to the Trustees' Section of A.L.A. Even at the risk of being indicted for high treason, I will repeat this statement that I made at the A.L.A. Conference in New York—that if I must choose between a strong State Association or a strong A.L.A. Trustees' Group, assuming that we cannot develop both, I would choose the strong State Association. The problems of trustees in any one state are similar, whether it be in the small or the large library. Our taxing units follow similar patterns. Our library laws are the same, and having served in a village library with a budget of \$4,000 and in a county library with a budget of \$1,800,000 I would say that our political problems are similar.

The minute you cross the state line, however, you meet trustees who do not talk

the same language. The taxing units differ—the construction of the political body varies and, as a consequence, the problems of trustees vary. For instance, trustees from Massachusetts were only mildly interested in my story of county libraries in New York State because the county has no taxing powers in Massachusetts. Trustees of a county library in Pennsylvania didn't understand my reference to our 54 Supervisors in Erie County. They were governed by three County Commissioners who, being elected from the county in general, were not as much interested in the problems of local communities as our supervisors are in Erie County.

Then, too, there is the problem of distance as it applies to the attendance of trustees at conferences. In New York State a number of our trustees can take a day or two from their busy lives to attend a conference annually and some of us know each other as well as we know the trustees of our adjacent towns. But when this year's A.L.A. Convention is held in New York—and next year's in Los Angeles, you don't meet the same trustees year after year. And so we lack the continuity of planning—of personnel, for any important committee work.

Starting then from the common problems which confront trustees from within any one state, and the fact that the problems differ so greatly between states, the common interest which draws together our New York State Trustees and enables us to build so strong a group, cannot tie us so effectively to the trustees from Michigan or Georgia or Arizona. But when I say this, I do not by any means infer that there is no place for a Trustees' Section in A.L.A. I believe that strong state trustees' associations should be the first step only, and that these state groups should be represented by delegates in an A.L.A. trustee group. Despite the fact that our closest problems are in our own state, there are many fields of discussion which may better be explored on a wider basis. It seems to me that we should define the areas which are primarily for discussion in the state groups, and which in the national group.

ALA Trustees Problems

I believe I do not need to mention the problems we are interested in as a state group. What shall we say of the problems of an A.L.A. Trustees' group? At present we are working on a Trustees' Handbook—for Trustees, by Trustees, and applicable throughout

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the country. This is certainly an A.L.A. project. I think discussion of comparative points of State Library laws, state systems of aid, and state promotion would be of benefit to all of us. Probably California, Michigan or Ohio, can show New York the way in some things, and New York can show the way to a lot of other states, and an A.L.A. Trustees' group is the most logical place to exchange these ideas.

Recommendations

May I therefore recommend these steps. First, to continue to build a stronger state trustees' group, by adding members, by attend-

ing and participating in local and state meetings such as this. Second—join the Trustees' Section of the Public Libraries Division of A.L.A.—your dues will serve a good purpose. Third, see that your state group has as many delegates as possible at the annual meeting of the A.L.A. Fourth, if in any way you can help promote a stronger trustee organization in some other state, do it.

Good trustee groups in 48 states will automatically create a strong A.L.A. and improve library service throughout the country so that our nation may be a better place in which to live.

A Look Forward

Last Sunday, two days before the Presidential election, it was my privilege to worship in the only church in the Chicago loop, the Chicago Temple. The minister gave an especially timely and thought provoking message. In essence, he said, some people will feel that if the candidate of their choice isn't elected the world will come to an end. But, he continued, the sun will rise on Wednesday and life will still go on! The sun did rise, but some couldn't see it and we are looking forward once again to all working together for a better America. What was more important, in his remarks, was the expressed idea that we may not know the true implication of the day, Tuesday, for some time to come, for on that day someone may have discovered a new cure for an incurable disease or an idea may have been brewing which, when it reaches fruition, will change the course of our very lives.

I have a feeling that some of the ideas which have been simmering here at the convention may—in time—more vitally effect ourselves and the library program for the state as a whole than will the election which seemed so all important to everyone.

We have been given the debits and credits of the M.L.A. with some recommendations for the future which, I understand, will be adopted as a course of action for the coming year. We have received an insight into a very vital state aid program as developed in New York, and Mr. Clift presented a unique ledger of the A.L.A. and its present functioning.

What I have to say will be more or less factual. I shall not attempt, as did the others,

*Donald W. Kohlstedt, Chairman
State Board for Libraries*

to evaluate ideas but as we, of the State Board look ahead we feel that certain things must be done but it will take the combined efforts of all of us to achieve any degree of success in our contemplated program.

Three of us stood on the fifth floor of this hotel, this morning, waiting for the elevator. In a little while we heard it coming down but it passed our floor without stopping. We had all failed to press the button. Each had assumed that the other had done it! Many things in life are never done because each of us assumes the other fellow will press the button to start things moving. The elevator of opportunity for the library cause in the state of Michigan will go flashing by if we all depend on the other fellow to press the button which translates good ideas into action. If each and everyone here will resolve now to be a button pusher we will see the fruition of our plans.

It was my privilege to attend three of the recent district meetings. There, as here, I became increasingly aware of the importance of getting information to everyone vitally concerned with library service, whether librarian, trustee or friend. One trustee told me that the district meeting was the best he ever attended because it was devoted to a single subject where ideas on both sides were freely expressed and thoroughly explored.

Revision Of State Aid Law

Now that we have all discussed state aid, examined it critically together and have it uppermost in our minds we must capitalize on our information. No legislative bill is designed

to last indefinitely. Mr. McKaig told us of the importance of the psychology of bringing in a new bill to the legislature at intervals and the State Board for Libraries now recommends the immediate revision of the State Aid law in the light of our present information. We know that some form of equalization should be incorporated in the new law. We are convinced that in some of the now unserved areas of the state no standards, however low, will provide library service as we wish it could be and there must be confidence enough vested in the State Board and your State Library personnel to carry on demonstration programs and, if necessary, direct library service. We believe that enough facts are at hand now to enable the interim study committee of the M.L.A. to get a revised bill before the next legislature. If we are all sufficiently informed on its contents it cannot fail to receive favorable consideration. Our budgetary recommendation, for immediate state aid, is \$788,010, including a 10c per capita General Fund grant as compared with .06533 paid in 1951-52.

Experimental Programs

Because we did not feel we should wait for a revised State Aid law, giving us some discretionary power, our budgetary submission also included two experimental programs as part of your State Board's over all effort to improve the Michigan library situation and to use state funds to greater advantage. The first would involve a form of equalization for a large area with a low density of population and a low assessed valuation. If approved, the State Board would provide library service over and above what can reasonably be expected through existing local libraries throughout the Upper Peninsula. Our plan is predicated on direct consultant service, working through the larger, centrally located libraries, augmenting their service with rotating collections of books, films and all media of communicating ideas as well as a state operated bookmobile to the now unserved areas on a demonstration basis. We estimate the cost of this program to be \$58,952 for the year beginning July 1, 1953.

Our second suggested special program, in our current budgetary request, is a demonstration of a regional library service to the five counties which comprise the Grand Traverse Area. A year of planning, working with local officials and on the spot organization of material and equipment, at a cost of \$58,906, would result in a three year demonstration of

complete, regional library service after which our program would be withdrawn in favor of local support and operation.

New Grants

We are also considering, possibly through the State Aid bill revision itself, new types of grants to permit the State Board for Libraries to contract with key city and county libraries in the southern part of the state to:

1. Develop book pools to loan to smaller communities,
2. Provide film circuits, as in Missouri and Ohio,
3. Operate bookmobiles in now unserved areas, and
4. Centralize purchasing and processing, wherever possible using, to their fullest potentials, good business procedures, better discounts and mechanical time savers.

Cognizant, as we are, of our responsibility for surveys and regional library planning, as provided in the regional library law, what has just been outlined to you is still in the wishful thinking stage of a budgetary submission which may be converted into reality only if properly supported by you and the proper implementation devised as we work together.

State Library Survey

Along this same line, we suggested the desirability of a statement of function for the Michigan State Library as the best method of properly channeling our efforts. We were fortunate in having Mrs. Gretchen Knief Schen on our staff for a few weeks to make a study of the current and potential functions of the library. Her statement resolved itself into a series of seven basic principles, as follows:

- I. The legislature, judiciary, state officials and employees need and must use library service to provide good government.
- II. No other department in state government and no other library in the state, except the State Library, has the responsibility for providing library service to state institutions and hospitals.
- III. As the state's official "library", the State Library has the specific responsibility of preserving and maintaining historical or archival materials of value to the state, unless that function has been expressly delegated to some other agency and is being performed by that agency.

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IV. As the central collecting and distributing agency for books and information, the State Library has responsibility for the collection, preservation, distribution and exchange of federal, state and local publications.

V. The state has an active interest in the development, maintenance and improvement of library service of *all* types as a "means of education". This active interest may be implemented by the following types of activities:

- a. Advisory and coordinating services
- b. Provision of materials and information
- c. Financial assistance
- d. Making and enforcing minimum standards.

VI. All library service must rest on a sound legal basis before it can function effectively. So the State Library is responsible for the promulgation of

laws which will provide citizens of the state with the best possible service.

VII. Many of the above functions are being performed under tremendous difficulties at the present time, due to the temporary housing of the State Library. Some will never reach their fullest potentials until proper housing is provided by the state.

This, then, has been a brief insight into the present and future of your State Library and a summation of the State Board for Libraries' hopes and aspirations. We realize at once our obligations and our opportunities. We are fully cognizant of the fact that all of our efforts and our hopes may result in a mixture of good days and bad, victory and defeat, give and take. We are trying, as your State Board, to face the future humbly and sincerely with a determination to overcome the hard knocks and setbacks of the past and build, with you, a stronger more effective library service of greater equality for every citizen in the state of Michigan.

Report to the Stockholders

Those attending the Third General Session of the annual Michigan Library Association Conference were treated to a verbal tour of American Library Association headquarters by David Clift, Executive Secretary of ALA.

With Mr. Clift as guide, we learned that the building housing the ALA once belonged to the fabulous Cyrus McCormick. The Association purchased the former mansion in 1945 and has been grateful ever since for the convenience of its central location. The structure rises four stories and has *no elevators*, but boasts adjoining "coach house", home of the ALA publishing department. We entered the main door and proceeded to the ballroom, which is the library and archival department. The library has suffered from the ups and downs of financial support, but it is hoped the future will allow for development and expansion so that staff members may use it for research and assistance. From the library, we proceeded to the office of the Comptroller and his staff, located in the former music, dining and service rooms. This is the place where dues are received; membership cards issued, and where the Office of Promotion of ALA Memberships works with the Membership

David C. Clift, Executive Secretary, A.L.A.

Committee. ALA membership has grown to approximately 20,000 in spite of a raise in dues, but new ideas are needed to entice even more librarians into the fold.

The climb to the 2nd floor was easy, and we were invited to meet the staff of the ALA Bulletin, which was first published in 1907. Though it has shrunk under the rigors of economy, the publication is on the come back trail now and has the attention of a full time editor, and an advertising and business manager. A new format will appear in 1953.

Our next stop on the 2nd floor was the Public Libraries Division and the Division of Libraries for Children and Young People. These groups are doing great service by offering the assistance of specialists to libraries everywhere.

After brief visits to the Office of Education for Librarianship, the Adult Education Survey and the publishing room (in the old carriage house) we went up to the third floor and found the headquarters of the American Heritage Project.

The Project has added many new demonstrations areas and with its excellent staff

should continue to expand. Mr. Clift showed us his own office and that of ALA's Associate Executive Secretary, Mrs. Grace Stevenson. Then regretfully we left Chicago to find our-

Who Speaks for Man

With due respect to the menu of the MLA banquet, Friday Night, November 7th, the highlight of the gathering was undoubtedly Norman Cousins, editor of the *Saturday Review*. As speaker of the evening, he treated us to a forty-five minute glimpse of his constructive and informative philosophy for fighting and overcoming the growing threat of Communism in the world today.

Mr. Cousins began by characterizing himself as a "mis-educated man." He feels that humanity today is educated for sophistication, not compassion and that man no longer gains any pride in being a member of the human race. Man has conquered everything but himself and like Dr. Frankenstein, he cannot control what he has created. Our basic problem today is whether or not the world can be safe for the human race. The earth is shrinking: There is less land, less food, and more people, yet with every passing year, our energies are turned to destructive rather than constructive purposes. We have exhausted our margin for error. Our problem is now human destiny. In the present time, man has no spokesman. The Industrial Revolution, while dissolving our geographical boundaries also removed the essential function of governments: The ability to protect lives, souls and property of their citizens.

Mr. Cousins believes the United States can lead the way in promoting a purposeful world

selves back in the Hotel Olds Ballroom, not a bit tired from our interesting journey, but wondering what in the world ALA has hidden on the fourth floor. We didn't get there!

*Norman Cousins, Editor,
Saturday Review of Literature*

peace. We can speak for man, but only if we make it clear to all peoples that this country is committing itself without question to the cause of human welfare and peace. Many of the world's peoples do not understand us, therefore, they suspect our motives, yet our own security rests mostly on our ability to win the support of these very peoples whose trust we have not gained. Mr. Cousins' cited India as an example of this serious situation. The Indian government is fighting communism in the best way it knows how, and the United States must realize this fact. We must also recognize the difference in viewpoints between ourselves and other nations, and become aware of the fact that we can learn as well as teach. Building an "ivory tower" for ourselves is fatal. Man is searching for peace and refuge and we must put as much strength into preventing the next war as in winning it. The United Nations, if strengthened, can do much toward creating a true world federation.

Mr. Cousins' concluded with this truly thought-provoking statement: "War is an invention of the human mind—it can invent peace."

(Editor's Note: Because of the time element, complete speeches of Mr. Clift and Mr. Cousins were unobtainable. Mrs. Nancy Berkowitz, Michigan State Library, did the accurate summing up of two important speakers at the conference.)

Fortune Telling New Recruiting Device

*Jean Johnson, Chairman
Recruiting Committee*

The attractions of librarianship as a profession were called to the attention of college students who attended the Career Carnival at Michigan State College November 19-21. A "Wheel of Fortune" was one of the devices used in the exhibit prepared jointly by the M.L.A. Recruiting Committee and the

Michigan State Library. Each spin of the wheel entitled students to draw a snappy, personalized fortune calling attention to some praise of library work, e. g.

Faraway places lure you yet you must work for your living. As a librarian you can locate

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in any state and almost every country in the world.

Investigate this Career with a Future.

You have imagination and patience plus a good educational background. You will find reference work challenges your ability.

Be a Reference Librarian.

You have a way with children; they like you.

Be a Children's Librarian.

You have long wanted to be a nurse or a doctor but you enjoy reading too.

In Praise Of

Miss Frances E. Burnside, Librarian
Jackson Public Library
Jackson, Michigan
Dear Miss Burnside:

I must tell you that the MLA meeting at Lansing has been one of the most rewarding library meetings in many years of my library experiences. In live topics, able and outstanding speakers it could have matched many national meetings. There is no use to try to pick out individual programs finding which one was the best, or better than the other.

Highlights of Fall Section & District Meetings

COLLEGE SECTION

The College Section has a membership of approximately 40. Our mailing list included some 75 college librarians and others indicating a preference for this field. There are obviously many other college librarians who are potential members, and we leave with the new chairman the task of more recruiting for the College Section.

Meetings

The spring meeting was held May 21 in the Charles McKenny Hall, Ypsilanti, in joint session with the Reference and Catalog Sections for luncheon. Meeting as a section in the afternoon, we had a panel discussion on Faculty-Library cooperation. James McTaggart of Central Michigan College was Moderator, with Samuel McAllister, General Librarian, University of Michigan, Sister M. Claudia of Marygrove College, Norma Hammond of Albion College, and Dr. F. Clever Bald of the Michigan Historical Collections as members.

At the November 6 luncheon, 28 members

Be a Hospital Librarian.

You dislike "staying put". You would rather get out where you can meet all kinds of people.

Be a County or Regional Librarian.

The Recruiting Committee at its first meeting in November recognized that the shortage of librarians is acute and the competition of other occupations is keen. It therefore agreed that every effort must be made to enlist cooperation of libraries throughout the state and that the approach to potential recruits must be dynamic.

Without exception, they were all good. I am sure that you will during your presidency maintain this high level. There is one thing about district meetings. By need they must be short. I hope that since they have important matters to discuss every available moment will be used to discuss the topics for which they are scheduled.

Very truly yours

Lee H. Gregory

County Librarian

Presque Isle County Library

were present. Dr. F. Clever Bald, Assistant Director of the Michigan Historical Collections, Ann Arbor, was the speaker. He gave an interesting account of the type of material in the Collections, how it is acquired, how the colleges may use it, and finally, how other libraries may contribute to the Collections.

New Officers

F. Ridlen Harrell of the Engineering Library, University of Michigan, was chairman of the nominating committee. The officers elected are as follows:

Chairman: Mr. James McTaggart, Central Michigan College.

Vice-Chairman: Miss Norma Hammond, Albion College.

Secretary-Treasurer: Mrs. Wanda Bates, Michigan State Normal College.

(Mr. James McTaggart, former Vice-Chairman, automatically becomes chairman).

Barbara Phipps

Former Chairman

HOSPITAL SECTION

Dr. Maurice Lloch, Clinical Psychologist, Detroit House of Corrections, spoke to the Hospital Section of the Michigan Library Association on Thursday, November 6th at the Hotel Olds.

The reading of plays for mental hygiene values was the subject of Dr. Lloch's speech. To illustrate how drama can be used for psychotherapy, Dr. Lloch played back record-

ings of his interviews with inmates of the House of Correction on *Death of a Salesman* and *Ibsen's Doll's House*.

Miss Helen Cooper, Chief, Extension Department, Flint Public Library, and Miss Hazel Adair, Librarian, Wyandotte Public Library, were elected chairman and secretary of the Hospital section for the new year.

Genevieve Casey

District Meetings

District I

A special meeting for district I was called on the 23rd of October to discuss State Aid to Public Libraries. Thirty seven librarians and trustees met at the Kalamazoo Public Library and were welcomed by Miss Mate Graye Hunt, chairman for district I, and Miss Lillian Anderson of Kalamazoo Public Library, who took charge of arrangements for the meeting.

State Aid: How Well Does it Work?, was the subject of the morning session. A symposium of four people, Mrs. Grace Burgett of Michigan State Library, Mr. Clifford Wightman of Hackley Public Library, Muskegon, Miss Helen Warner of Willard Library, Battle Creek, and Mrs. Mary Daume, Monroe County Librarian, gave a brief but clear explanation of the State Aid Law as it now stands; the types of grants, the requirements in order to receive grants, and the objections to the law, with suggestions for improvement.

The meeting adjourned and the group reassembled for dinner at the Harris Hotel. The afternoon meeting took place in the dining room where a Hearing Board consisting of Mr. William Chait, Kalamazoo Public Library, who acted as chairman, Miss Louise LeFevre, Western Michigan College, Miss Hazel Cleveland, Western Michigan College, Mrs. Allyne Dickinson, trustee from Comstock, Mrs. Lodisca Alway of Kalamazoo and Mrs. Robert C. Innis of Milwood, discussed the topic: How Does State Aid Look to Us.

One item brought to the attention of the group was whether the prestige of State Aid was of any value. The average citizen feels that an institution is worthy of support if it lives up to certain standards set up by the state as do our educational institutions. However on the opposite side, the citizen may resent

what he terms state interference in a local unit of government.

The suggestion was made to turn the state aid fund over to the State Library each year and use the fund for services such as consultants, bookmobiles and professional help rather than money which cannot be stretched far enough to be very beneficial.

Another idea was to reimburse trained librarians up to a certain amount, as supervisors are reimbursed in other departments. Small libraries seem to exist in spite of the lack of state aid and these libraries could be helped through a federation of libraries with a central library to extend services in films, bound magazines and up to date material which these libraries cannot afford or cannot handle for lack of space. Perhaps the law should be changed to read a federation of libraries instead of counties with an understanding that the individual libraries would not lose their identities in a federation. The state aid money could be used for a demonstration of this federation to show how it operates. It might also be used to great advantage in a "central processing" venture for small libraries.

The meeting closed with the universal feeling that it had been an informative session.

District IV

District IV met October 10, 1952 at a special meeting called by the Executive Board of the Michigan Library Association to discuss problems of state aid to libraries. The meeting was held in the parlors of Park Congregational Church, Grand Rapids, Friday, October 10, with 58 registered and attending the luncheon. A total of about 75 attended the afternoon session.

After registration and coffee, the meeting was called to order by the president of the section, Miss Norma Jones at 11:00 A.M.

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She presented Mr. Robert Orr, President of the M.L.A., who gave the keynote speech, stating briefly that the purpose of the meeting was to discuss two matters (1) what is wrong with state aid, and (2) what should be changed.

This was followed by a symposium with Mrs. George Graybiel, Kent County Library trustee, Miss Katherine Wilson, Muskegon County Librarian, and Mrs. Mary Daume, Monroe County Librarian, explaining various phases of the State Aid law as it now exists.

The Hearing Board distributed themselves at various tables at luncheon. This was done so that in an informal way they might get varied reactions to the morning meeting.

The afternoon meeting began at 2 o'clock with Miss Helen Warner acting as moderator and the various members of the Hearing Board Mr. Morley Webb of Edmore, Mr. E. Henson of Stanton, Mr. McCall of Grand Haven, Miss Ruth Whittbecker of Mason County and Mr. Thomas Whinery of Grand Rapids taking part in the discussion, which was informal with questions and comments from the floor.

Various questions and comments were as follows not necessarily in the same order in which they came up. Change is necessary a growing society. Changes in the library law have been made and can be made. The *intent* of the library law has not changed. Is this present law penalizing the towns and cities? Is the incentive sufficient to warrant the extra effort for local communities to increase the amount of income for librarians? The change in tax valuation in some cases has increased the total amount to be raised to meet the 3/10 mill for libraries. Most smaller places are under the 15 mill tax limitation. Some libraries are therefore unable to meet the requirements for state aid, either by qualification or appropriation, and feel the effort is not worth the return. Maybe the standards of qualification are too high. Maybe a change in equalization is necessary, not the plan as a whole. Penal fines might be counted as a part of the 3/10 mill tax so as to help toward qualification.

There is a tendency to receive aid from the state and the nation. There should be a crusade to adequate home support first, by many regions. Much of the tax money is "rubbed off" between the tax payer, the state and back to the use of the tax payer. More can be done locally.

The Board of Supervisors feel that the schools come first and millage for libraries is not as important, although a part of the educational scheme. The problem in some cases is a matter of selling the library to the Board of Supervisors, the newspapers and the public as a whole, appealing to the community pride. Demonstration units would help in regions where the libraries are inadequate or non-existent, not only to prove the worth of libraries, but to improve the existing ones.

The total amount of the state aid fund for libraries has not been increased, while most other agencies have received increases. This fund should be increased so as to add to the incentive to meet the requirements.

No money has been used for new county libraries since 1947. A county library is a *system* of libraries within a county, with the business end in one place for economy in processing books. Why should county and regional libraries be the only ones to secure establishment grants? Why not other groupings other than counties and groups of counties? Why shouldn't smaller libraries combine in order to increase services, an organization similar to consolidated schools, but not covering an entire county? Why shouldn't there be a federation of libraries within an urban area, which might cut over county lines, to serve a population area, rather than a county or group of counties as a whole?

The danger that the 10% establishment grant because it has not been used for so long, might be lost, the group made a definite suggestion as follows:

"This pertains to the establishment grant of 10% for county libraries. If that amount is not used to establish new units, it is specifically suggested that the money not be returned to the general library fund, but be given to the State Board for Libraries to be used in extension services."

Miss Warner asked for a show of hands, three fourths voted in favor and none against this definite proposal to be sent the committee considering the reactions to state aid at these called meetings.

The meeting adjourned after a brief announcement by Mr. Kohlstedt in regard to the questionnaires which had been sent libraries about state aid.

Respectfully submitted,
Marjorie Nind
Secretary, Section IV, M.L.A.

District VII

A joint meeting of librarians and trustees of District 7, M.L.A. was held in the Marine Room of the House of Ludington, Escanaba, on Saturday, Oct. 18, at 10 O'clock. Mr. Randall, library trustee from Norway and chairman of the trustee's section of this District, opened the meeting, the purpose of which was to discuss the existing State Aid for Libraries law and to enable members of this group to express their opinions and make suggestions for a revision in the law satisfactory to this area.

Those present were called upon to identify themselves, and in the group were representatives from most of the libraries and trustee boards in the Upper Peninsula. Mr. Robert M. Orr, M.L.A. President and Mr. Norman Bunker, 2nd Vice-President, and Miss Eleanor Ferguson were here to represent the M.L.A. From the State Board for Libraries were Mr. Arthur Yabroff and Mr. Donald Kohlstedt and Mrs. Fannie Noonan who is administrator of State Aid for Libraries.

Mr. Orr brought greetings from the Executive Board. He explained the State Aid law as it now reads and told of his appointment of an Interim Committee to study the existing law and recommendations for changes in it. Members of this committee are: Mrs. Mary Daume, Chairman, Miss Frances Burnside, Mrs. Marion Wilcox, Mr. Arthur Yabroff, and Mr. Charles Follo.

A panel appointed for this meeting to give concise facts of the State Aid law was composed of Mr. Yabroff, who discussed the equalization clause, Miss Babcock, the establishment grant, and Mr. Follo, the general library fund grants. Mr. Yabroff reviewed the history of the State Aid law. He gave suggestions which have been made for revising the present law adopted in 1949, which eliminated the equalization clause and emphasized county establishment and development. Suggestions pointed out were: 1. Go back to the old equalization clause; 2. A State Aid Bill similar to or a modification of School State Aid; 3. State Library to serve rural areas by means of bookmobile, or by sending out book collections; 4. New patterns of service, such as encouraging existing libraries. It was brought out in the discussion which followed with this panel, that no county libraries have been established since 1947, so the allocation for that purpose in the 1949 State Aid law was returned each year to the General Fund. The

U. P. has little chance of ever qualifying for the establishment grant. The meeting was recessed at this time for luncheon which was served at 12:30 in the main dining room of the hotel.

A hearing committee had been appointed for the purpose of contacting members from the various sections of this area, and reporting back to the meeting the reactions and suggestions as to what is wrong with the present law and what can be done to improve the law so that it will help in the U. P.

Mr. Randall opened the afternoon session with the Hearing Committee acting as a panel. First Mrs. Noonan discussed the posters which were on display. These charts were designed for the explanation of library funds, State Aid, public library income, percentage of people living in areas served by libraries, book surveys, etc.

The Hearing panel discussion was opened by Miss Ferguson, chairman. Other members of the committee were Mr. Wenther, trustee of Norway, Mrs. Paul, trustee of Marquette, Miss Williams, librarian of Calumet, Mrs. Gilbert, trustee of Escanaba, and Mr. Humphry, trustee of Ironwood. Mr. Wenther reported that most people want equalization for the poorer libraries. Mrs. Paul told that Marquette has an adequate budget, but had been unsuccessful in an attempt to serve the outlying area. They now contract with the townships to pay 10c per book for individual borrowers from unserved areas. Mrs. Gilbert explained why there are few rural areas in the U. P. We have our larger cities such as Escanaba, etc., and very small communities, and much of the rest is Federal forest. Miss Williams discussed problems of reduced population, limited employment opportunities, and the high cost of supporting a library in Calumet which also serves without extra funds the Keweenaw County district where there is no other library service. Mr. Humphry told of problems in Ironwood to pay salaries and to qualify under the present State Aid law, with the reduced funds since the equalization clause had been taken away. Better, he said to spend that money on promotional or educational work such as bookmobile or regional state extension service. Sell the library locally and get local support to operate it.

Various suggestions were made for the betterment of library service in this district, such as: The State should release more money to the poorer libraries on the basis of

need; consolidate with the rural schools in transportation of books as well as children; service adults through school children; some of the allocation for the establishment of county libraries should be used to give service to needy areas; return the equalization clause to the law. Mr. Follo spoke of the need we have of cooperating with the lower peninsula for aid to libraries. He compared the situation in State Aid to schools and remarked how sad our schools would be if it were not for the aid from State funds. We need some kind of equalization because of the decrease in population and declining industry. We educate the youth in the U. P. and then they have to go down state or elsewhere for employment. Miss Ferguson brought up the question of whether State Aid should be in the form of books, instead of money. A discussion followed as to how State Aid money was generally spent by the individual libraries, the conclusion being that all had spent it much alike in books, records, films, salaries, etc.

Mr. Follo now moved that this group go on record as favoring the recognition of the principle of need in revision of the law for State Aid to Libraries. The motion was seconded. An amendment to the motion was proposed by Mr. Randall, that this group recommend that an equalization clause be included in the State Aid to Libraries bill, the sum to be distributed under the equalization clause, set at 15% of State Aid grant. This amendment was adopted and the motion was then carried as amended.

There was general discussion on our need for a consultant in the U. P. Miss Rankin moved the adoption of the following resolution: that we value the services of a consultant and would like a replacement expedited. Resolution carried.

It was suggested by Mr. Randall that a study group be appointed in the U. P. to study library needs. After general discussion of this idea, it was moved by Mrs. Asselin, Norway trustee, that a committee of 6 be appointed to make a study of extended service, send questionnaires, etc., committee to be composed of chairman of trustees section and chairman of librarians section of District 7, and 2 persons appointed by each chairman; motion was seconded and carried.

Mr. Randall thanked Mr. Follo for making arrangements for this meeting which was stimulating and expressive. Mr. Follo told of plans for inviting M.L.A. to meet in Escanaba in 1954. Mr. Orr commented upon the frank discussions and stimulating meeting and commended members for speaking out frankly their problems and opinions. He mentioned the fact that with Mr. Bunker of Ironwood on the Executive Board and Mr. Follo of Escanaba on the Interim Committee, the U.P. district is well represented in M.L.A. affairs.

Mr. Kohlstedt summarized from the State Board for Libraries angle. He welcomed opinions of all members so that all interests can be melded into a state law which will best serve all districts. 14 libraries he reported were to apply for county library grants within the next few years, and some areas can never meet the standards. Demonstration areas set up by the State Board would use funds from county library grants. Questionnaires on State grants were passed out for members to fill out and return before leaving.

Meeting adjourned.

Louise T. Owens, recorder
Escanaba.

Who's Who In The MLA

(Editor's note: complete directory of all members, district officers, sections and committees will be found in the March issue of the *Michigan Librarian*.)

MLA OFFICERS

President

Frances E. Burnside, Jackson Public Library

Vice-President (President-Elect)

Ruth Warncke, Kent County Library, 1961 Godfrey St. S.W., Grand Rapids 9

Second Vice-President

Dorothy Shipman, Manistique Public Library

Secretary

Eleanor Burgess, Grand Rapids Public Library

Treasurer

H. Glen Fitch, Hillsdale College Library

Member-at-Large (Professional Group)

Virginia Summers, Public Library, Lansing

Member-at-Large (Trustee Group)

Mrs. Franklin M. Reck, 665 W. Main Street, Manchester

Past-President

Robert M. Orr, Grosse Pointe Public Library

A.L.A. Councillors

Robert M. Orr, Grosse Pointe Public Library (1953)

John Lorenz, Michigan State Library, Lansing (1954)

Eleanor Ferguson, Public Library, Dearborn (1955)

Executive Secretary

Mrs. Evelyn Tintera, 5966 N. Hagadorn Road, East Lansing

DISTRICT OFFICERS

May 1952 - May 1953

District 1

Co-Chairmen:

Trustee: Miss Cornelia Crowley, 114 South 5th Street, Niles.

Represented by Mrs. Chester Hoffman, 827 Wilson, South Haven.

Librarian: Mate Gray Hunt, Western Michigan College, Kalamazoo.

Trustee

Vice Chairman: Mrs. Rena Buskirk, Paw Paw.

Secretary-Treasurer: Mrs. Mildred Smith, 231 Lincoln St., Hastings.

State Nominating Committee: Mrs. Allyne Dickinson, Comstock.

Librarian

Vice-Chairman: Mr. Francis Allen, Van Buren County Library.

Secretary-Treasurer: Miss Kathleen Gilbert, South Haven Public Library.

Membership Chairman for Trustees and Librarians: Mrs. C. I. Hoffman, 827 Wilson, South Haven.

District 2

Co-Chairmen: Trustee Mrs. M. A. Waldo, Lansing Public Library home, 1215 S. Genesee Drive.

Librarian: Mrs. D. G. Dearing, Cromaine Library, Hartland.

Trustee

Vice-Chairman: Mr. Clifford McKibben, 626 Rosewood Drive, East Lansing.

Secretary-Treasurer: Mrs. J. H. Kelly, Concord, Jackson County Library.

Vice-Chairman: Mary Tressider, Mason, Ingham County Library.

Secretary-Treasurer: Pauline Clark, Lansing Public Library.

District 3

Co-Chairmen

Trustee: Mr. Marion Kellogg, 29 Fisher Road, Grosse Pointe.

Librarian: Jeanne Lloyd, Baldwin Public Library, Birmingham.

Trustee

Vice-Chairman: Mrs. D. Otis Tewksbury, 1856 Pinecrest, Ferndale.

Secretary-Treasurer: Miss Clara Snow, 22611 Morley Ave., Dearborn.

Librarian
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Norma
Arbor,

District 4

Co-Chair

Trustee
St., Lo

Librar
School

Trustee

Vice-Ch
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Secreta
son, E

Librarian

Vice-Ch
Haven

Secreta
Grand

District 5

Co-Chair

Trustee
Librar

Trustee

Vice-Ch
W. Su

Secreta
Bride,

Librarian

Vice-Ch
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District 6

Co-Chair

Trustee
Librar

Public

Trustee

Vice-Ch
Rapid

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Lake

Librarian

Vice-Chairman: Eleanor Ferguson, Dearborn Public Library.

Secretary-Treasurer: Mrs. Roberta Keniston, Reference Librarian, Ypsilanti State Normal College, 1507 E. Park Place, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

District 4

Co-Chairmen

Trustee: Mrs. C. Leslie Rolfe, 401 Hackett St., Ionia.

Librarian: Norma Jones, Creston High School, Grand Rapids.

Trustee

Vice-Chairman: Mrs. Wilson Dalzelle, Ionia.

Secretary-Treasurer: Mrs. Victor Harrison, Edmore.

Librarian

Vice-Chairman: Helen DeYoung, Grand Haven Public Library.

Secretary-Treasurer: Marjorie Nind, Grand Rapids Public Library.

District 5

Co-Chairmen

Trustee Mrs. Alice Miller, Ithaca.
Librarian Mrs. Hazen Cole, Ithaca.

Trustee

Vice-Chairman: Mrs. Helen Woodley, 823 W. Superior, Alma.

Secretary-Treasurer: Mrs. Orville McBride, Sandusky.

Librarian

Vice-Chairman: Elsa Struble, Mt. Pleasant Public Library.

Secretary-Treasurer: Mrs. Mina Kinnane, Sage Library, Bay City.

District 6

Co-Chairman

Trustee Mrs. Bill Nieukoop, Manton.

Librarian Miss Grace Jessup, Petoskey Public Library, Petoskey.

Trustee

Vice-Chairman: Mrs. Fred Marriott, Elk Rapids.

Secretary-Treasurer: Miss Lydia Ripatti, Lake City.

Librarian

Vice-Chairman: Mrs. Teresa Flaherty, Traverse City Public Library.

Secretary-Treasurer: Mrs. Linda Potts, Librarian, Frankfort.

District 7

Co-Chairman

Trustee: Mr. L. R. Randall, Norway.

Librarian: Mrs. Dorothy Shipman, Manistique Public Library, on leave.

Trustee

Vice-Chairman: Vacant.

Secretary-Treasurer: Mrs. L. J. Straub, Iron Mountain.

Librarian

Vice-Chairman: Mrs. Melba Urban, Iron Mountain, acting chairman.

Secretary-Treasurer: Pearl Peterson Menominee.

SECTION OFFICERS

Member-at-large, M.L.A.: Virginia Summers, Librarian Public Library, Lansing.

Adult Education

Chairman: Mrs. Carrie Palmer, Royal Oak Public Library 1953.

Vice-Chairman and Chairman Elect: Keith Doms, Head Midland Public Library.

Secretary-Treasurer: Mrs. Thekla Hodgson, Benjamin Franklin Branch, Detroit Public Library.

Catalog Section

(Michigan Regional Group of Catalogers)

Chairman: Jane St. Clair, Flint Public Library.

Secretary-Treasurer: Jane Rakestraw, Detroit Public Library.

Director 1953-55: Mrs. Arline Custer, Detroit Inst. of Arts Library.

Member Bd. of Directors 1951-54: Mrs. Helen Finster, Grosse Pointe Public Library, Taisto J. Niemi, Western Michigan College, Kalamazoo.

College Library Section

Chairman: Mr. James McTaggart, Central Michigan College, Mt. Pleasant.

Vice-Chairman: Miss Norma Hammond, Albion College, Albion.

Secretary-Treasurer: Mrs. Wanda Bates, Michigan State Normal, Ypsilanti.

Hospital Library Section

Chairman: Miss Helen Cooper, Chief Extension Dept., Flint Public Library.

Secretary: Miss Hazel Adair, Librarian, Wyandotte Public Library.

Reference Section

Chairman: Mr. Francis X. Scannell, Reference Dept., Detroit Public Library.

Vice-Chairman and Chairman Elect: Miss Lucile Harwick, Reference Librarian, Lansing Public Library.

Secretary-Treasurer: Mrs. Anne Alubowicz, Ref. Librarian, Mich. State College Library, East Lansing, Michigan.

School and Children's Library Section

Chairman: Miriam A. Wessel, Detroit Public Library, Detroit 2.

Vice-Chairman and Chairman-Elect:

Secretary-Treasurer:

Trustee's Section

Co-ordinator: Member-at-large (Trustee) Mrs. Franklin Reck, Manchester, Michigan.

Chairman: Mrs. Clarence Hilberry, 424 Lewiston W. Ferndale 20, 1953.

Vice-chairman: Mrs. M. A. Waldo, Lansing Public Library, home 1215 S. Genessee Drive, 1953.

2nd Vice-Chairman: Wm. J. Cummings, 820 Summit, Sault Ste. Marie, 1953.

Secretary: Mrs. Franklin Reck, 665 W. Main St., Manchester, 1953-1954.

County Library Section

Chairman: Mrs. Mary E. F. Tressider, Ingham County Library, Mason.

Vice-chairman: Miss Eudocia Stratton Jackson County Library.

Secretary-Treasurer: Miss Grace Gillespie, Wayne County Library, Detroit.

COMMITTEE OFFICERS

Recruiting Committee

Chairman: Jean Johnson, Michigan State Library Consultant, Northern Branch at Cadillac (Lower Peninsula office).

Committee on Relations with Publishers

Trustee Citation Committee

Chairman: Mrs. Arthur Yabroff, in care of Mr. Yabroff, Detroit Public Library.

Miss Maud Grill, Jackson Public Library.

ALA Membership Committee

Chairman: Katherine Stokes, Western Michigan College, Kalamazoo.

Legislative Committee

Chairman: Mrs. Mary Daume, Monroe County Library.

Membership Committee

Chairman: Elizabeth McPhail, Mark Twain Branch, Detroit Public Library, Detroit 13.

Planning Committee

Chairman: Mrs. Dorothy Hagerman, Grand Rapids Public Library.

Public Relations Committee

Salary, Staff and Tenure Committee

Chairman: Eudocia Stratton, Jackson County Library.

Scholarship Committee

Chairman: Mrs. Grace Burgett, 1512 W. Ottawa, Lansing 15.

Publications Committee

Chairman: Hobart R. Coffey, U. of Mich., Law Library, Ann Arbor.

The Michigan Librarian

Editor: Mrs. Evelyn Tintera, 5966 N. Hagadorn Road, East Lansing.

Business and Advertising Manager: William Peters, Chase Branch, Detroit Public Library.

Goodwill Conferences

Chairman: Eudocia Stratton, Librarian, Jackson County Library.

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Federal Relations Committee

Chairman: Eleanor Ferguson, Dearborn Public Library.

Committee on MLA Finances

Chairman: Marian C. Young, Detroit Public Library, Detroit 2.

Committee on Intellectual Freedom

Interim Study Committee on State Aid

Chairman: Mrs. Mary Daume, Monroe County Library, Monroe.

Arthur Yabroff, Public Library, Detroit 2.
Robert M. Orr, Public Library, Grosse Pointe 30.

Marian Wilcox, McGregor Public Library, Highland Park.

Charles Follo, Jr. High School, Escanaba. Upper Area, U. of Michigan Extension Division.

Mrs. Franklin Reck, trustee, Manchester.

Editor's Report

Your *Michigan Librarian* has tried very hard to include in this issue as much of the 1952 Convention as possible. It was impossible to get all reports, speeches and comments because of a very tight deadline. We are sorry if anyone or anything has been overlooked.

The *Michigan Librarian* is your publication. In order to make it truly representative of you, suggestions for articles, criticism, promptness in turning in reports of sections, committees and districts to Frances Burnside, president are important.

Your editor is always available by phone or mail or visit. Anything you want announced in your magazine, dates, meetings, send on. The March issue will be a complete directory of MLA members, committees, sections and districts. Also in the March issue deadlines for all copy to the *Michigan Librarian* will be printed to help you.

Let's hear from you often.

(We regret that the article "Michigan Folklore, Let's Know It and Use It," by Dr. Thelma G. James was not received when *Michigan Librarian* went to press.)

FOR YOUR CALENDAR

School and Children's Librarians
Spring Institute, May 8 and 9

1953 Conference at Grand Rapids
October 28 thru 31

